GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

PS – FD – Memorial Petition of Sri Z.Thomas Vijaya Raju, Sr. Asst.(Retd), formerly Sr.Asst., O/o the FRO, Kurnool Circle against the orders of punishment imposed by the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests – Modified the punishment – To impose a penalty of "2% cut in pension for a period of (1) one year and to regularise the suspension period as on leave" – Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 32 Dated: 22-03-2018

Read the following:

1. From Sri Z. Thomas Vijaya Raju, Sr. Asst.(Retd), Kurnool, dt.02.01.2016
2. Govt Memo No.666/Sec.IV/A1/2016, dt: 3.6.2016.
3. From PCCF Lr Rc.No.10131/2016/A&DC-1, dt. 30.3.2017.
4. Govt.Memo. No.666/Sec.IV/A1/2016, dt:07.11.2017.
5. From the PCCF, Lr. Rc.No.10131/2016/A&DC-1, dt.22.01.2018.
6. Govt.Lr.No.666/Sec.IV/A1/2016, dt:01.02.2018.
7. From the APPSC, Lr.No.141/DC&C/2018, dt.09.03.2018.

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, Sri Z.Thomas Vijaya Raju, Sr.Asst.(Retd), Kurnool Circle has submitted the Memorial Petition against the penalty of "stoppage of (4) increments without cumulative effect and treat the period of suspension as leave eligible" awarded by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests. The PCCF was requested to furnish specific remarks to Government immediately, for taking necessary further action in the matter vide reference 2nd read above.

2. In this regard, the PCCF vide reference 3rd read above has informed that an Article of Charge was issued to Sri Z.Thomas Vijaya Raju, Sr.Asst.(Retd.), O/o Forest Range Officer, Kurnool by the Conservator of Forests, Kurnool under Rule 20 of APCS (CCA) Rules, 1991, vide Ref.No.2725/2013/M3 dt.20.06.2013, on the following count:-

Article:- "Un-authorized absence from Duty"

That Sri Z.Thomas Vijaya Raju, Senior Assistant, O.D. in O/o CF, Kurnool had grossly neglected his duty, irresponsible, not heeding to the instructions of superior Officers, and willfully absented to duty from 17.04.2013 onwards without applying for sanction of leave and taking prior permission from the competent authority causing dislocation of office works.

Thus he has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty and conduct unbecoming of Government Servant and thereby contravened Rule 3 of the AP civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

3. The Charged Officer acknowledged the receipt of the Article of Charge on 26.06.2013 and submitted his explanation on 26.06.2013. The Divisional Forest Officer and Forest Range Officer, Kurnool were appointed as Inquiry Officer & Presenting Officer vide Conservator of Forests, Kurnool Proc.Rc.No.2725/2013/M3(i)&(ii) dt.21.07.2013 respectively. The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool conducted the inquiry on 06.11.2013 and submitted the findings to CF., Kurnool, vide his Ref.No.3795/2012/H10 dt.05.12.2013. The findings were communicated to the Charged Officer vide CF., Kurnool Rc.No.2725/2013/M3 dt.15.01.2014 and the Charged Officer submitted his further defence statement on 15.03.2014.

4. The disciplinary case was finalized by the Conservator of Forests, Kurnool by awarding a punishment of "stoppage of (4) increments without cumulative effect and

(P.T.O)

the suspension period underwent by the individual in this case is treated as not duty", vide Proc.No.2725/2013/M3 dt.19.04.2014.

5. Aggrieved with the above orders, Sri Z.Thomas Vijaya Raju, Sr.Asst.(Retd.), formerly Office of Forest Range Officer, Kurnool preferred an Appeal Petition to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(HoFF), Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

6. The PCCF has informed that the Appeal Petition of Sri Z.Thomas Vijaya Raju, Sr.Asst.(Retd.), Office of Forest Range Officer, Kurnool was examined with reference to the remarks of the Conservator of Forests, Kurnool and records connected to the case. The punishment of "stoppage of (4) increments without cumulative effect and treating the suspension period underwent by the individual in this case is treated as not duty", awarded by the Conservator of Forests, Kurnool vide his Proc.No.2725/2013/M3 dt.19.04.2014 to Sri Z.Thomas Vijaya Raju, Sr.Asst.(Retd.), Office of Forest Range Officer, Kurnool, was modified to that of "stoppage of (4) increments without cumulative effect and treat the period of suspension as leave eligible".

7. Aggrieved with the above orders, Sri Z.Thomas Vijaya Raju, Sr.Asst.(Retd.), preferred a Memorial Petition to the Government, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

8. The Charged Officer retired from service on 31.05.2014 A.N. on attaining the age of superannuation. Hence the disciplinary proceedings are continued under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

9. After careful examination of the matter, with reference to the remarks of the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests and the material made available, Government have provisionally decided to modify the aforesaid punishment to that of "2% cut in pension for a period of one year and to regularise the suspension period as on leave" in respect of Sri Z.Thomas Vijaya Raju, Sr. Asst.(Retd), under rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

10. Accordingly, a Show-Cause-Notice was issued to the retired officer vide reference 4th read above. The Charged Officer acknowledged the Show-Cause-Notice on 15.12.2017. The Retired Officer did not submit his further defence statement within the stipulated time.

11. Government after careful examination of the matter hereby order to impose a penalty of 2% cut in pension for a period of one (1) year and to regularise the suspension period as on leave against the Charged Officer Sri Z.Thomas Vijaya Raju, Sr.Asst.(Retd), Kurnool Circle under rule 9 of A.P.Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

12. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Guntur shall take action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

G.ANANTHA RAMU
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Guntur
(with original record Rc.No.2725/2016/M3)
The Individual (through the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests)
Copy to:
The Accountant General (A&E), A.P, Hyderabad.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada.
The Secretary, A.P.Public Service Commission, Vijayawada (with ref. to Lr.No.141/DC&C/2018, dt.09.03.2018)
Sf./Sc.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER